

I am a channel 47 viewer from Madison, WI., owned by Sinclair Broadcasting. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. I am counting on your agency to stop them from making up their own election rules. It is bad enough that they would even air that garbage of lies, but to air it in an attempt to influence an election is illegal. Please stop them, and if they do it anyhow, fine them till it stops any other company from thinking that breaking the law to push a personal agenda is even worth it. Thank you for your time.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.